

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A method for testing multiple dial-up points in a communications network, comprising:

executing instructions at a monitoring station for establishing a plurality of dial monitor processes; and

establishing, via each process, a respective connection from the monitoring station to a respective one of the dial-up points;

wherein the plurality of dial monitor processes are adapted to run concurrently, at least in part, for establishing their respective connections.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:  
each process comprises a thread.

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:  
each dial monitor process is provided as a distinct instance.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:  
the dial-up points are associated with an Internet site.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:  
the dial-up points are associated with an intranet site.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:  
each dial-up point comprises a point of presence in the network.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:

the respective connections are established via respective analog modems.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:

the respective connections are established via respective Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) modems.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:

the respective connections are established via respective Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) terminal adapters.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

executing instructions at the monitoring station for testing services of at least one site in the network via the dial-up points.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein:

wherein a different service of the at least one site is tested via each different dial-up point.

12. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

executing instructions at the monitoring station, via a transaction monitor process that spawns the dial monitor processes, for testing services of at least one site via the respective connections.

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein:

the transaction monitor process tests the services according to an associated test profiles database.

14. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:

the respective connections are established using a application programming interface (API).

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:

the respective dial-up connections are established using a point-to-point protocol.

16. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:  
  
the connections are established such that an interface local to the monitoring station is associated with each connection.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein service-specific monitors test services of at least one network site via the respective connections, further comprising:  
  
obtaining addresses from the interfaces for use in binding the service-specific monitors to respective ones of the interfaces.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein;  
  
said binding enables each service to be tested via a respective different connection.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein:  
  
the addresses comprise Internet Protocol addresses.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
  
executing instructions at the monitoring station, via each process, for testing the respective connections.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, further comprising:  
  
communicating test data obtained from the testing for storage at a remote server.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, further comprising:  
  
communicating test data obtained from the testing for storage at a local datalog.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein:

the connections are tested for availability.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein:

the connections are tested for data rate.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:

the dial monitor processes run test profiles for testing the respective connections according to an associated test profiles database.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 25, wherein:

the dial monitor processes run their test profiles in response to an invoked property if there is a correspondence between an associated property entry and the invoked property.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein:

the invoked property comprises a communication port identifier.

28. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein:

the invoked property is entered by a user at a command line interface.

29. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein:

the invoked property is read in from a properties file.

30. (previously presented) An apparatus for testing multiple dial-up points in a communications network, comprising:

means for executing instructions at a monitoring station for establishing a plurality of dial monitor processes; and

means for establishing, via each process, a respective connection from the monitoring station to a respective one of the dial-up points;

wherein the plurality of dial monitor processes are adapted to run concurrently, at least in part, for establishing their respective connections.

31. (previously presented) A computer program product, comprising:

a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for testing multiple dial-up points in a communications network from a monitoring station;

the computer readable program code means comprising means for executing instructions at the monitoring station for establishing a plurality of dial monitor processes, and means for establishing, via each process, a respective connection from the monitoring station to a respective one of the dial-up points;

wherein the plurality of dial monitor processes are adapted to run concurrently, at least in part, for establishing their respective connections.

32. (previously presented) The product as in claim 31, wherein:  
each dial-up point comprises a point of presence in the network.

33. (previously presented) The product as in claim 31, wherein the code further comprises means for executing instructions at the monitoring station for testing services of at least one site in the network via the dial-up points.

34. (previously presented) The product as in claim 33, wherein:

a different service of the at least one site is tested via each different dial-up point.

35. (previously presented) The product as in claim 33, wherein the code further comprises means for executing instructions at the monitoring station, via each process, for testing the respective connections.

36. (previously presented) The product as in claim 35, wherein the connections are tested for data rate.

37. (previously presented) A combination of a monitoring station and a network site, the combination comprising:

a network site including a plurality of dial-up points; and

a monitoring station including a plurality of dial monitor processes corresponding to and in communication with the dial-up points;

wherein at least two of the processes run concurrently.